

Montana's SB 98 Interface Challenge

MITIGATING THE RISK

Since the inception of the National Fire Plan in 2001, Montana has received nine million dollars for fuels mitigation on private lands. To date, approximately 8000 acres have been treated, along with extensive education and outreach activities. The average cost for comprehensive fuels mitigation in Montana is \$780/acre.

Fuels mitigation grant programs offer cost-share assistance ranging from 50%-75% to private homeowners to assist with reducing hazardous fuels and creating defensible space.



Who owns the interface*?

Ownership	Forested Acres in WUI	Non-Forested Acres in WUI
Federal	3.7 Million	521,000
Local Gov't	10,700	7,500
Private	4.03 Million	910,000
State	435,200	599,000
Tribal	442,500	756,300
There are 910,084 acres of state trust land in the		

*Based on the default WUI boundary determination provided for in the Health Forests Restoration Act (HFRA), which is 1/2—1 1/2 miles from communities, concentrations of structures, subdivisions, and/or municipal boundaries.

Structure Protection

Based on statewide data, there are an estimated 350,927 structures in the wildland urban interface in Montana. Of those, it is reasonable to assume that approximately 2/3 of those (about 234,000) are homes.

At an average price of \$150,000, the value of homes in the interface — excluding other personal property — is more than \$35 Billion dollars. The map on the right shows the concentration of structures (black) and the wildland urban interface in Montana (red).

